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addyessed to Assistant Commissioner of Patents, Washington DC 2023

missioner of Patents, Washington DC 20231 January 4, 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Serial Number:

09/878,743

Filed:

June 11, 2001

Group Art Unit:

1732

FEB 0 4 2002

Examiner:

Applicant:

John Linville, Donald R. Maier and Patrick M. Sal

Title:

CASKET LID AND METHOD OF MAKING SAME

Cincinnati, Ohio 45202

January 4, 2002

Assistant Commissioner of Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

In accordance with the duty of candor and good faith imposed by 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and means of complying therewith according to 37 C.F.R. §\$1.97 and 1.98, the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449 are called to the attention of the United States Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-identified patent application. The instant application is a continuation of Application Serial No. 09/153,626 filed September 15, 1998, now U.S. Patent No. 6,243,931 issued June 12, 2001. The cited references were cited by the Applicant and the Examiner in Serial No. 09/153,626. Since priority is claimed in the instant application to Serial No. 09/153,626, copies of the references are not being supplied herewith

under the authority of 37 C.F.R. §1.98(d). No admission is made that the cited art represents the prior art or that the cited art is the most material art.

The Examiner is urged to consider the cited references listed on the attached form PTO-1449, and to make an independent decision with respect to their materiality.

It is submitted that the cited references do not disclose or render obvious the subject matter claimed in the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

WOOD, HERRON & EVANS, L.L.P.

By: <u>//</u>

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